

**COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING**

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES DIVISION

1900 Capitol Avenue

Sacramento, CA 95814-4213

(916) 327-2967



**TO: Program Sponsors Having Preliminary Multiple and Single Subject Teacher Preparation Programs**

**FROM: Lawrence W. Birch, Director, Professional Services Division**

**DATE: March 28, 2008**

**RE: Information for all programs about the implementation of the TPA requirement**

On behalf of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, I would like to thank you for all of your efforts in gearing up to implement the state's new Teaching Performance Assessment requirement. I recognize that program sponsors are putting a great deal of effort into organizing the program's implementation plan, responding to standards 19-21, and making sure that there are trained assessors available regardless of which model is being implemented.

***TPA Implementation on July 1, 2008.*** According to SB 1209 (Scott), the implementation of a Commission-approved Teaching Performance Assessment for multiple and single subject candidates is required as of July 1, 2008. Program sponsors are urged to continue planning for implementation. Program sponsors should continue to respond to Program Standards 19, 20 and 21 and should continue local efforts to have a cadre of trained assessors available and ready by the required implementation date.

However, because of California's current budget situation, the California State University system has requested a delay in the required implementation of the TPA because funding for the implementation of the TPA has not been provided to the CSU. Senator Jack Scott is working with the legislative budget committee staff to identify funding that could be allocated to the CSU next year for implementation. If funding is not available, another possible alternative could include legislation to delay required implementation for one year. Because resolution of the issue is tied up in the State budgetary process and the legislative calendar, it is likely that it would be mid-April, at the earliest, before the budgetary questions can be answered.

Until there is a change in the law, however, the July 1, 2008 implementation date still stands. Even if there is a delay in required implementation, program sponsors are urged to voluntarily implement the CalTPA, the PACT, or any other CTC-approved TPA. The Commission will be continuing its TPA activities and will be working with all program sponsors implementing the TPA.

***Clarification of who is subject to the TPA requirement.*** If there is not a delay in the July 1, 2008 implementation date, all multiple and single subject candidates who begin their work in their preliminary teacher preparation program on or after July 1, 2008 will be required to take and pass the teaching performance assessment. “Begin their work” is defined as the date that the candidate begins the professional preparation program (pedagogical studies). Two examples of that would be, when a candidate begins his or her first course in the professional preparation program, or when an intern begins his or her pre-service preparation.

***TPA materials being developed.*** The Commission is preparing materials for approved programs to use with candidates, faculty supervisors, support providers, school administrators, school board members and parents. Materials will include a program manual that contains general implementation procedures regardless of the model, as well as information about privacy, video recording and ownership issues. The Commission is also developing a transition document that is being designed so teacher preparation programs can provide candidates with information to take with them into their induction programs for the development on an Individualized Induction Plan.

***Special Education TPA.*** The Commission’s Special Education Work Group recommended that the Teaching Performance Assessment requirement be extended to Education Specialist Credential candidates. This recommendation requires statutory action and is included in SB 1186 (Scott). If enacted, a Special Education version of the CalTPA would be developed based upon Education Specialist Teaching Performance Expectations, which are being developed along with revised Education Specialist program standards. Development of the Education Specialist TPA will not proceed until statutory action is completed.

***Further implementation specific to the implementation model.*** Program sponsors should remain in contact with the administrators of the chosen TPA model to keep abreast of latest developments. The Commission will be sending additional information to sponsors implementing the CalTPA.

#### **TPA Contact information**

General email: [tpa@ctc.ca.gov](mailto:tpa@ctc.ca.gov)

TPA administrator: [pjacobson@ctc.ca.gov](mailto:pjacobson@ctc.ca.gov)

TPA support: [ssullivan@ctc.ca.gov](mailto:ssullivan@ctc.ca.gov)

Standards 19-21 Responses: [tjanicki@ctc.ca.gov](mailto:tjanicki@ctc.ca.gov); [danderson@ctc.ca.gov](mailto:danderson@ctc.ca.gov)